TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE





HB 507 - SB 532

March 12, 2017

SUMMARY OF BILL: Authorizes local governments participating in the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS) to adopt, by ordinance or resolution, a supplemental bridge benefit policy for emergency medical services (EMS) Group 1 members of TCRS who retire at age 60 or after, but before they are eligible for federal Social Security Administration benefits.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase Local Expenditures – Exceeds \$61,700/Permissive

Assumptions:

- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-140-302(14), EMS personnel are individuals certified
 or licensed by the Emergency Medical Services Board (Board) in accordance with
 various categories and classifications of licenses or certificates that the Board
 establishes.
- According to the Department of Health's website, the Office of Emergency Medical Services currently licenses Emergency Medical Technicians, Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics and certifies Emergency Medical Dispatchers and Emergency Medical Responders.
- Any action taken by local governments participating in TCRS to provide supplemental bridge benefit insurance to retired EMS personnel in accordance with this legislation is permissive.
- Based on information provided by the TCRS, the average annual benefit payment for a supplemental bridge benefit policy per eligible retired EMS employee is estimated to be \$12,336.
- At least one local government electing to participate in the TCRS will adopt a supplemental bridge benefit policy in accordance with this legislation with at least five retired EMS employees that will be eligible to receive such benefits. The permissive recurring increase in local expenditures is estimated to exceed \$61,680 (5 EMS employees x \$12,336 average annual benefits).
- Based on information provided by the TCRS, this legislation will have no impact on state pension expenditures because TCRS benefits for non-teacher local government retirees are funded 100 percent by the respective local government entity. Any impact to state government is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista M. Lee, Executive Director

Krista M. Lee

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